House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 34 public bills, H.R. 3009–3042; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 182–184; and H. Res. 540–544, were introduced.

Pages H7774–76

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H7776-78

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Salazar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H7659

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rabbi Ellen S. Wolintz-Fields, Congregation B'nai Israel, Toms River, New Jersey.

Page H7659

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 178 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 622.

Pages H7659, H7674

Responsible Redeployment from Iraq Act: The House passed H.R. 2956, to require the Secretary of Defense to commence the reduction of the number of United States Armed Forces in Iraq to a limited presence by April 1, 2008, by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 201 nays, Roll No. 624.

Pages H7674-H7719

Point of Order sustained against:

Wilson (NM) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment.

Pages H7717–18

Agreed to table the Wilson (NM) motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 623.

Pages H7718-19

H. Res. 533, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 621, after agreeing to order the previous question by a recorded vote of 225 ayes to 197 noes, Roll No. 620. Pages H7663-74

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Sutton wherein she resigned from the Committee on the Budget, effective immediately.

Page H7719

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 540, electing Representative Sutton to the Committee on the Judiciary, to rank immediately after Representative Johnson (GA).

Page H7719

Section 8 Voucher Reform Act of 2007: The House passed H.R. 1851, to reform the housing

choice voucher program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, by a yea-and-nay vote of 333 yeas to 83 nays, Roll No. 629.

Pages H7726-60

Agreed to the Capito motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 233 ayes to 186 noes, Roll No. 628. Subsequently, Representative Frank (MA) reported the bill back to the House with the amendment and the amendment was agreed to.

Pages H7758-60

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Page H7735

Agreed to:

Waters modified manager's amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–227) that includes increased rent structure flexibility while maintaining affordability requirements, an increase up to 12.5% in first year permitted housing agency voucher reserves, provisions spelling out HUD responsibilities with respect to access to HUD programs for persons with Limited English Proficiency, modifications to voucher inspection requirements, and changes to the Housing Innovation Program; Pages H7745–48

Velázquez amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–227) that requires that public housing agencies selected for participation in the Housing Innovation Program must comply with voucher and public housing domestic violence provisions from the Violence Against Women Act; and Pages H7748–49

Markey amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 110–227) that makes certain low-income tenants of the Heritage Apartments in Malden, Massachusetts eligible for enhanced housing vouchers after prepayment of a HUD mortgage and subsequent ownership transfer of the property without HUD restrictions that may jeopardize the housing affordability and allows for the transfer of Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contracts in Columbus, Ohio in the University District and in Cincinnati, Ohio in the Over-the-Rhine Community.

Pages H7751–52

Rejected:

Gary G. Miller (CA) amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110–227) that sought to impose a 7-year time limit on participation in the Section 8 program, to exclude the elderly and disabled from this requirement, and provide for a hardship exception (by a recorded vote of 151 ayes to 267 noes, Roll No. 625);

Pages H7749–51, H7755–56

Chabot amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 110–227) that sought to strike the authorization of appropriations for the creation of 20,000 new vouchers each year for years FY 2008 through FY 2012 (by a recorded vote of 144 ayes to 277 noes, Roll No. 626); and

Pages H7752–54, H7756–57

Hensarling amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 110–227) that sought to require that all adults in a household receiving Section 8 tenant assistance for more than 7 consecutive years must perform 20 hours per week of approved "work activities;" exemptions are provided for senior citizens, the disabled, those already exempt from TANF work requirements, and those who cannot access child care (by a recorded vote of 197 ayes to 222 noes, Roll No. 627).

Pages H7754–55, H7757

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

Page H7760

H. Res. 534, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote.

Pages H7719-26

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 4 p.m. tomorrow, and further, that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, July 16th for Morning Hour debate.

Page H7762

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, July 18th.

Page H7762

Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation: Representative Skelton and Representative Hulshof.

Page H7762

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted the report that assesses the status of each of the 18 Iraqi benchmarks contained in Public Law 110–28—referred to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–45).

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7673, H7673–74, H7674, H7718–19, H7719, H7755–56, H7756–57, H7757, H7759, and H7760. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ENERGY-BASED DERIVATIVE TRADING

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review trading of energy-based derivatives. Testimony was heard from Walter Lukken, Acting Chairman and Commissioner, CFTC; Orice M. Williams, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, GAO; and public witnesses.

SUPPLEMENTAL ENERGY AND WATER, AND RELATED AGENCIES, AND COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2008

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the following appropriations for fiscal year 2008: Supplemental Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies; and, as amended, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies approved for full Committee action the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for Fiscal Year 2008.

DOD APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2008

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense met in executive session and approved for full Committee action the Defense Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2008.

MENTAL HEALTH

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on mental health. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: S. Ward Casscells, M.D., Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs; VADM Donald C. Arthur, USN, Co-Chair, Defense Health Board Task Force Mental Health, Surgeon General, Department of the Navy, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; and a public witness.

ALTERNATIVES FOR IRAQ'S FUTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on A Third Way: Alternatives for Iraq's Future, (Part 1). Testimony was heard from GEN Wesley K. Clark, USA (ret.); and a public witness.